

CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING

Do It for Yourself.
Do It for Your Family.



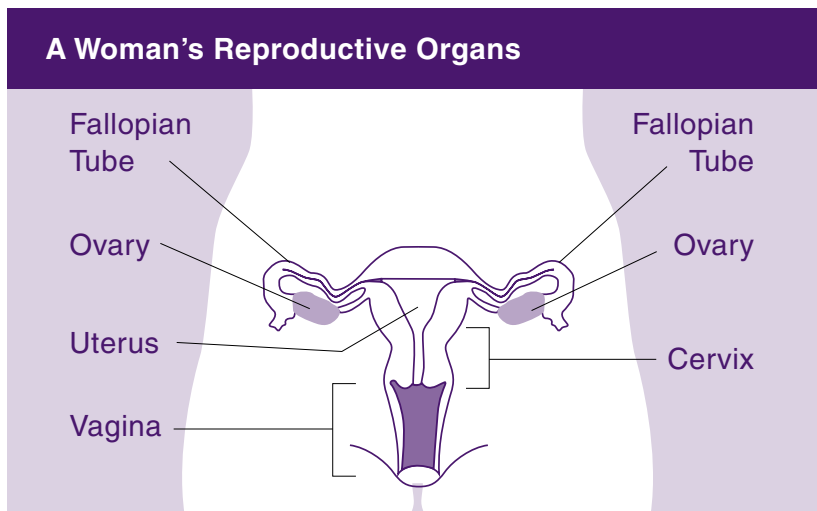
Cancer Detection Programs:
Every Woman Counts

What is Cervical Cancer?

Cancer is a disease in which cells in the body grow out of control. Normally cells grow in an orderly way, but cancer cells do not. When this happens in the cervix, it is called cancer of the cervix or cervical cancer.

Where is the Cervix?

The **cervix** is part of the woman's reproductive organs (see picture below).



The **cervix** connects the upper part of the **uterus** to the **vagina** (the birth canal). The upper part of the **uterus** is where a baby grows when a woman is pregnant. The **uterus** is also known as the womb. The **cervix** is the lower, narrower part of the **uterus**.

CALL 1-800-511-2300 TO SEE IF YOU PRE-QUALIFY
FOR FREE CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING.

Cervical cancer can usually be prevented by having a regular Pap test.

What is Cervical Cancer Screening?

Cervical cancer screening includes both a pelvic exam and a Pap test. Both can be done in a doctor's office.

Pelvic exam

A pelvic exam is part of a woman's routine health screening. During a pelvic exam the doctor looks at and feels the reproductive organs for changes in their shape or size.

Pap test

The Pap test is a quick and safe test. The test looks for cells in and around the cervix that are unhealthy (abnormal). This test is performed during your pelvic exam. The doctor or nurse collects a few of the cells from your cervix and upper vagina. These cells are sent to a medical laboratory to be checked to see if they are normal.

Why Should You Have Cervical Cancer Screening?

- When cervical cancer is found and treated early, it is possible to cure.
- A Pap test can find abnormal cells before they become cancer.

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FOR FREE CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING.



TAKING CARE OF
YOURSELF IS SHOWING
LOVE TO YOUR FAMILY.

XUYEN DOAN, AGE 54

When Should You Get Cervical Cancer Screening?

You should begin cervical cancer screening at age 21 or when you start having sex, whichever comes first. You should get screened for cervical cancer every year or as often as your doctor recommends.

If you have three normal Pap tests in a row, your doctor may decide you may need a Pap test less often.

What You Should Know...

✓ *Get Screened Even If You Don't Feel Sick!*

Early cervical cancer has no warning signs.

✓ *Get Screened Even If You Feel Embarrassed or Shy!*

Many women feel embarrassed or shy having a pelvic exam. These feelings should not stop you from being screened for cervical cancer. It is a wise choice you can make to protect your health!

✓ *Get Screened Regularly, Especially If You are 40 and Older!*

Most cervical cancer develops in women age 40 and older.

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FOR FREE CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING.



GET OUT THERE AND
GET YOUR PAP TEST.
IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.

PEGGY ANN B., AGE 54

How Can You Get a FREE Cervical Cancer Screening?

Call **1-800-511-2300** Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. to see if you pre-qualify with the *Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts* for free services.

Live operators are available to speak with you in:

- ✓ English
- ✓ Spanish (press #2)
- ✓ Mandarin (press #3)
- ✓ Vietnamese (press #5)
- ✓ Korean (press #6)
- ✓ Cantonese (press #7)

The Cancer Detection Programs: Every Woman Counts offers:

- Free pelvic exams and Pap tests to women age 25 and older who qualify.
- Free breast exams and mammograms to women age 40 and older who qualify.
- Free follow-up tests, if needed.

Important Facts About Cervical Cancer

- Cervical cancer can be prevented if women are screened regularly with a Pap test.
- When cervical cancer is found and treated early, it is possible to cure.
- Most cervical cancer develops in women age 40 and older.



Cancer Detection Programs:
Every Woman Counts

www.dhs.ca.gov/cancerdetection

Upon request, this document will be made available in Braille, large print, and audiocassette or computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write:

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Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
Phone number 916-449-5300
California Relay 711/1-800-735-2929

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